

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

Sub A' 5 1. A messaging system having integrated therewith a message notification means, said message notification means comprising:

memory means for storing notification status for messages in said messaging system;

10 a user interface for providing to a user a list of new messages for which a notification has not been cleared;

said message notification means permitting the user to select a particular notification from said list for manipulation.

15 2. A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said manipulation consists of selecting a functionality associated with a plurality of options presented to the user.

20 3. A messaging system according to claim 2 wherein said plurality of options is presented visually by a plurality of buttons.

25 4. A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said messaging system is a unified messaging system.

5. A messaging system according to claim 4 further comprising a filtering means for specifying which types of messages are to be included in said list.

30 6. A messaging system according to claim 5 wherein said user interface is a graphical user interface and wherein different icons are displayed beside different types of messages in said list.

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7. A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said manipulation consists of clearing said particular notification.

5 8. A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said manipulation consists of clearing all notifications in said list.

10 9. A messaging system according to claim 2 wherein said functionality is selected from the group of: clear item, clear all, call sender, open, open messaging application, and print.

15 10. A messaging system according to claim 9 wherein said open messaging application functionality launches a messaging application associated with said messaging system.

20 11. A messaging system according to claim 9 wherein said call sender functionality replies to the sender of the selected message notification without retrieving the message itself.

25 12. A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said integrated message notification means may be launched from within a messaging application associated with said messaging system.

30 13. A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said integrated message notification means is designated as a particular view within a messaging application associated with said messaging system.

35 14. A method of enhancing a messaging system, said method comprising the steps of:

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providing a message notification application integrated with a messaging application of said messaging system;

identifying a set of new messages for which a notification has not been cleared;

presenting, to a user by said message notification means, a list of said set of new messages via a user interface; and

permitting said user to select a particular message notification from said list for manipulation.

15. A message notification means for use with one or more messaging systems, said message notification means comprising:

polling means for polling said one or more messaging systems for new messages;

memory means for storing notification status for messages in said messaging system and for storing a variable relating to each message;

a user interface for providing to a user a list of new messages for which a notification has not been cleared;

said message notification means permitting the user to select a particular notification from said list for manipulation.

16. A message notification means according to claim 15 wherein said variable contains the date, time and sequence of each message.

17. A method of providing message notifications to a user, said user having access to one or more messaging systems, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a message notification means for use with said one or more messaging systems;

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polling said one or more messaging systems, by
said message notification means, for new messages;

identifying a set of new messages for which a
notification has not been cleared;

5 presenting, to said user by said message
notification means, a list of said set of new messages
via a user interface; and

permitting said user to select a particular
message notification from said list for manipulation.

18. A message notification means for use with one
or more messaging systems, said message notification
means comprising:

receiving means for receiving indications from
said one or more messaging systems regarding the presence
of new messages therein;

memory means for storing notification status
for each message in said messaging system;

a user interface for providing to a user a list
20 of new messages for which a notification has not been
cleared;

said message notification means permitting the
user to select a particular notification from said list
for manipulation.

19. A method of providing message notifications to
a user, said user having access to one or more messaging
systems, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a message notification means for use
30 with said one or more messaging systems;

receiving, at a receiving means within said
message notification means, indications from said one or
more messaging systems regarding the presence of new
messages therein;

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identifying a set of new messages for which a notification has not been cleared;

presenting, to said user by said message notification means, a list of said set via a user

5 interface; and

permitting said user to select a particular message notification from said list for manipulation.

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